



HR0968

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Father Michael
4 Goergen on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his
5 ordination as a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago; and

6 WHEREAS, Fr. Michael Goergen was born on June 16, 1936; his
7 parents are Virginia (Rogers) and Michael A. Goergen; he has 7
8 siblings, Rosanne, Robert, Chuck (deceased), Tim, Georgine,
9 Troy, and Joel (deceased); and

10 WHEREAS, At an early age, Fr. Michael Goergen heard "God's
11 Call"; for 18 years, he attended the St. John Bosco parish; Fr.
12 Don Cunningham, his parish priest at St. John Bosco, made a
13 deal with him to enter Quigley High School for his freshman
14 year and to transfer out if it "didn't fit"; Fr. Goergen chose
15 to stay at Quigley; during his 5th year at Quigley, he and his
16 family moved to LaGrange Highland, where he remained until he
17 was ordained; the family subsequently settled in Darien; after
18 graduation, he entered St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein; while
19 in seminary, he was employed at R.R. Donnelly in the bindery;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Fr. Michael Goergen was ordained as a priest on
22 April 28, 1962; his first appointment after ordination was at

1 St. Eulalia in Maywood, where he became an avid handball
2 player; during this time, he was a member of the firefighter
3 engine no. 42 and 60 handball teams; during the 1960s, his team
4 took 1st place at the Mercy Boys Home handball tournament 3
5 times; and

6 WHEREAS, After his tenure at St. Eulalia, Fr. Michael
7 Goergen was transferred to Queen of Saints, where he served for
8 7 years; he subsequently served at Queen of the Universe for 6
9 years and at St. Cristina's for 2 years; in 1982, he became
10 Pastor of the congregation at St. Nicholas of Tolentine; and

11 WHEREAS, After taking a 6 month sabbatical to Notre Dame in
12 1994, Fr. Michael Goergen began serving at St. Robert
13 Bellarmine, which became his new home for the next 12 years; in
14 2006, he retired to St. Bartholomew, where he continued his
15 work of visiting children, comforting the sick, praying with
16 the families who have lost a loved one, celebrating a wedding,
17 anniversary, or baptism, using his woodworking skills on wood
18 found around the rectory, or pulling weeds on the parish
19 campus; and

20 WHEREAS, Fr. Michael Goergen enjoys golfing, vacationing
21 in Door County in Wisconsin, and spending time with his nieces
22 and nephew; and

1 WHEREAS, Fr. Michael Goergen serves as a model of hard
2 work, integrity, and dedication for the people of the State of
3 Illinois; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we congratulate Father Michael Goergen on the occasion of the
7 50th anniversary of his ordination as a priest of the
8 Archdiocese of Chicago; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to Fr. Michael Goergen as a symbol of our esteem and
11 respect.